

APPENDIX 8

EXAMPLE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

- A. An Individual Discharger or Discharger Group shall develop and implement a Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP), if required, that works towards achieving the objectives and the specific requirements listed in the Conditional Waiver for Irrigated Lands.
- B. Through implementation of the WQMP, the Discharger or participants in a Discharger Group shall prevent or minimize the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable from the agricultural operations to the waters of the State. A list of resources for management practices that may control agricultural nonpoint source pollution is provided in Attachment E.
- C. The Individual Discharger or Discharger Group shall develop or amend the WQMP consistent with the following objectives for the control of pollutants.
 - a. Minimize the number, quantity, and toxicity of pollutants discharged from agricultural operations.
 - b. Establish specific objectives for the control of pollutants by conducting the following evaluations and providing a report of the findings:
 - (1) The WQMP shall provide a plan to review an Individual Dischargers agricultural operation or provide a plan for participants in a Discharger Group to review their agricultural operations for opportunities to control nonpoint sources of pollution and the potential for releasing significant amounts of pollutants to waters of the State due agricultural practices. The review shall include a look at all applicable agricultural practices, including but not limited to fertilizer and pesticide application methods and post application practices, application rates, points of application, material storage areas, potential sites for application runoff, process and material handling areas, loading or unloading operations, and spillage or leaks. Where there is a potential management practices or other circumstances to result in discharge of pollutants to surface waters, the WQMP should identify management practices that may minimize potential discharges.

- (2) Where pesticide water quality objectives are exceeded, the WQMP shall assess factors influencing the amount of pesticides discharged to surface waters including the timing of pesticide applications, the application rates, the amounts of pesticide applied, and the points of application (all of these factors can be referred to as "use pattern").
- (3) The WQMP shall provide information regarding the types of management practices that are being used, the degree to which they are being implemented on the individual property or in the Discharger Group area, and how effective the practices are in protecting waters of the state.
- (4) The WQMP shall consider follow-up monitoring of discharges which do not meet WQOs to identify the sources of pollutants, and provide information on new management practices that may minimize the discharge.

D. The WQMP shall be consistent with the objectives above and the general guidance contained in the publication entitled *Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices (BMPs)* (USEPA, 1993), Natural Resource Conservation Service's Field Office Technical Guides, University of California Cooperative Extension's Farm Water Quality Planning documents, and other management practice information developed to reduce nonpoint source pollution from agricultural operations.

The WQMP shall describe management practices applicable to the agricultural operation or operations covered by the WQMP that may eliminate or decrease discharges from the agricultural operations in question. In particular, the management practices identified shall address the following issues where applicable:

- (1) The control of runoff of fertilizers, pesticides, and other pollutants such as salt, sediment, and nutrients.
- (2) Agricultural management practices and technologies to reduce offsite movement of pesticides from orchard field crops, and other type of irrigated lands.
- (3) The creation or maintenance of land strips, etc. to prevent erosion, trap sediments and nutrients, and increase in soil water infiltration rate.
- (4) Reflect requirements for Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) plans under Section 311 of the Act and 40 CFR Part 112 and may incorporate any part of such plans into the WQMP by reference.
- (5) Reflect requirements from storm water control under Section 402(p) of the Act and the regulations at 40 CFR 122.26 and 122.44, and otherwise eliminate to the extent practicable, contamination of storm water runoff.

The WQMP shall be documented in narrative form, shall include any necessary plot plans, drawings or maps, and shall be developed in accordance with good engineering practices. The WQMP shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:

- (1) Name and Location of the facility.
- (2) Statement of BMP policy.
- (3) Specific management practices and standard operating procedures to achieve the above objectives, good housekeeping.
- (4) Preventative maintenance.
- (5) Inspections and records.
- (6) Security.
- (7) Employee Training.

- E. The Individual Discharger or Discharger Group shall update the WQMP whenever there is a change in the individual facility or the Discharger Group area which materially increases the generation of the pollutants or the potential release of pollutants to the receiving waters. The Plan shall be amended as appropriate. Any such changes to the WQMP shall be consistent with the objectives and specific requirements listed above. All changes in the WQMP shall be reported to the Regional Board and/or State agency in writing.
- F. At any time, if the WQMP proves to be ineffective in achieving the general objective of preventing and minimizing the generation of pollutants and their release and potential release to the receiving waters and/or the specific requirements above, the WQMP shall be subject to modification to incorporate revised BMP requirements.